

Application No.: 10/579,268

Docket No.: JCLA20858

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding Office action mailed on September 26, 2008. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Present Status of the Application

The Office has concluded that claims 1-5 in the instant application are allowed, while claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. 4,934,382 to Barone, Jr. (Barone).

Since the application is in condition for allowance except for claims 6 and 7, Applicant has canceled the claims 6 and 7. It is believed that the foregoing amendments introduce no new matter to the present application, and the rejections of claims 6 and 7 at issue are submitted to be rendered moot after entry of the foregoing amendments. Currently, claims 1-5 remain pending in the present invention, and prompt issuance of the Notice of allowance with respect to the present application is respectfully requested.

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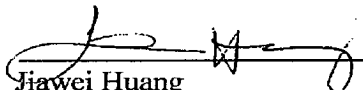
CONCLUSION

In consideration of the above, it is believed that all the pending claims 1-5 of the present application are in proper condition for allowance. If the Office believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Office is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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